



The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the
NH Department of Environmental Services

May 2010

The Municipal EcoLink, is a monthly e-bulletin designed to inform you of the latest environmental ideas, trends, grants, rules and more from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES). We respectfully request that the following is read into the minutes of your municipal committees, councils and boards. Please feel free to post it on your municipal website as well.

DES Seeks Comments on Innovative Permitting Initiative

Over the past year, DES has conducted research, collected input, and involved numerous DES staff and outside stakeholders to develop a proposed approach for the new DES Innovative Permitting Initiative (IPI). This new initiative focuses on land development activities and the permit programs that typically apply to land development activities: Alteration of Terrain, Subsurface Systems and Subdivisions, Shoreland Protection, and Wetlands. DES will seek comments **through June 22, 2010** and continue to develop and refine the detailed procedures and supporting materials, which will be available at the DES website as they are prepared. DES expects to begin the pilot program this summer. If you are interested in participating, as a municipality or developer, or have questions about this initiative, please contact either Carolyn Russell at carolyn.russell@des.nh.gov, (603) 271-3010; or Muriel Lajoie at muriel.lajoie@des.nh.gov, (603) 271-8139. More can be found at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/p2au/pis/iptai/index.htm>.

Fleet Manager Workshop: June 4

Designed for fleet managers as an informative and interesting overview on fuels, vehicles and emissions reduction, the *Green Your Fleet!* workshop will be held **June 4**, from 8:30 am to 3 pm, at Manchester Community College, LEED Certified Automotive Building, 1066 Front Street (right off of Exit 10 on I-93), Manchester. Learn about the experiences of fleet managers in the areas of alternative fuels, advanced vehicle technology and fuel economy strategies. The workshop is free and lunch is provided, but space is limited to 120 attendees. Register today at http://www.granitestatecleancities.nh.gov/documents/green_your_fleet.pdf. For more info, contact Dolores Rebolledo, Granite State Clean Cities, at (603) 271-6751 or dolores.rebolledo@des.nh.gov.

Updated Model Groundwater Protection Ordinance Available

If your community is considering adopting or amending its current ordinance relating to aquifer or groundwater protection, DES has recently released an updated version of *Model Groundwater Protection Ordinance*. Updates reflect new or changes to state rules, fact sheets, publications, state programs, guidance manuals, web and other citations; the addition of stormwater provisions; notes concerning DES guidance on private well testing and new DES BMPs related to blasting; references to pre-existing non-conforming uses and statutory enforcement issues related to RSA 674:19; and a list of New Hampshire towns with groundwater/aquifer protection districts. The model ordinance, which was updated by DES with input from the NH Office of Energy and Planning and a team of municipal and regional planners, can be downloaded at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/publications/wd/documents/wd-06-41.pdf>.

New Hampshire Commute Green, May 15 – June 25

For more information visit www.bwanh.org or call 1-800-462-8707.

Please send your comments for the editor to editor@des.nh.gov. To receive press releases and other publications of the NH Department of Environmental Services via e-mail, please sign up at www.des.nh.gov/media/enews/index.htm.